

## POUCH HAVING A BRANCHED CHAMBER

### Cross-Reference to Related Application

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This application is a divisional application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/320,273, filed May 28, 1999, <sup>now U.S. Patent No. 6,655,837</sup> which claims priority to U.S. patent application Serial No. 60/087,304, filed May 29, 1998 and U.S. patent application Serial No. 60/087,129, filed May 29, 1998, which are all hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a pouch having at least one branched chamber extending and diverging from a side wall of the pouch. More specifically, the present invention relates to a pouch having a least one branched chamber extending and diverging from the side wall of the pouch at a position lower than the top part of the pouch body. Even more specifically, the present invention relates to a multi-compartment pouch in which powder and liquid are separately stored. Additionally, the present invention relates to a pouch having a pouring outlet on at least one branched chamber extending and diverging from a side wall of the pouch.

A conventional pouch for liquid includes a pouring outlet to allow for the easy removal of the contents. Conventional pouches are known to have a variety of pouring outlets. For example, a pouch can have a separate pouring outlet, in the form of a tap, at the top of the pouch. The pouch can have an integrally molded pouring outlet. Another embodiment of conventional pouches has a pouring outlet formed by heat sealing or the like. Many pouches with 3-sided or 4-sided sealing, as well as free-standing pouches, in which the width of the bottom is spread by sealing a separate film, have used these or similar pouring outlets.

Liquid detergents, drinks, soups, or the like generally stored in the conventional pouches are filled from an unsealed portion at the top of the pouch. This portion is then sealed by heat sealing.